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INFO RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0043  
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RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0324

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/25/2011  
TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [UN](#) [LG](#)  
SUBJECT: LATVIA ON HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

REF: A) STATE 157283 B) RIGA 523

Classified By: Ambassador Catherine Todd Bailey. Reason: 1.5(D)

[1](#)1. (C) Pol/econ chief delivered ref A points to Latvian MFA PolDir Ilgvars Klava on September 25. Klava, noting that Latvia was not a member of the HRC, took copious notes and nodded his head vigorously at several points, but did not give a formal indication of the GOL's position. He did, however, say that he thought the U.S. approach to focus on Burma and DPRK was "smart."

[1](#)2. (C) Comment: Back in June, Klava was raising concerns about the Council's effectiveness and its focus on Israel, and warned that it seemed to be headed down the path of its predecessor, which he said would be a mistake. Sympathize as they might with us, however, without a seat on the council, Latvia's influence on this issue is limited.  
BAILEY